

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Klaus Schumann, Frank Seibertz and Peter Steinborn

Serial No. : 09/763,267 Confirmation No.: 5473

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION - Remarks

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

In the Office Action mailed October 21, 2003, the Examiner has rejected claims 13, 16, 17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art in view of Doering, Jr., U.S. Patent No. 3,813,846. Applicant herein cancels claims 13 and 17. Claims 16 and 19 depend from claims 14 and 18, respectively, which, as described below, have been amended, and because of these amendments, applicant believes that all of these claims are now allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 16 and 19 be withdrawn.


Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that claims 14, 15, and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant herein amends claims 14, 15 and 18 to include all of the limitations of the base claim, and, for claim 15, the intervening claims. Claim 14 is amended to include all of the limitations of claim 13; claim 15 is amended to include all of the limitations of claims 13 and 14; claim 18 is amended to include all of the limitations of claims 13 and 17.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is requested. No new matter has been added. The examiner is invited to

telephone the undersigned if there are any matters which could be discussed to expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

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